

S-446  
Joseph Mullen Waters House  
Upper Hill  
Private

c. 1900

The Joseph Mullen Waters house has fallen into an advanced state of disrepair and is currently surrounded by a thick growth of trees and vines. The two-and-a-half story, cross gabled frame dwelling, erected around 1900, stands at the end of Waters Lane on the western edge of the black community of Upper Hill.

The earliest deed for the property was recorded on November 5, 1907 between Robert H. Jones, Jr. and Joseph Mullen Waters, which included "Lots 4 & 5" of land subdivided on a plat prepared by Albert Sudler. Due to the turn of the twentieth century character of the house, it is estimated that Waters financed construction shortly after his purchase.

Joseph Mullen Waters passed ownership of the house and lots to his wife, Lois, with remainder interest to Annie E. Waters, whose ownership was relinquished in 1986 to Robert Lewis Stein for \$1500.

## HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: JOSEPH MULLEN WATERS HOUSE

MHT Inventory Number: S-446

### MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

- 1) Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture
- 2) Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore
- 3) Chronological/Development Period(s):  
Industrial/Urban Dominance  
1870-1930
- 4) Resource Type(s):  
Single-family dwelling

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. S-446  
Magi No.  
DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic JOSEPH MULLEN WATERS HOUSE

and/or common ANNIE E. WATERS HOUSE

**2. Location**

street & number End of Waters Lane ☐ not for publication

city, town Upper Hill ☐ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Somerset

**3. Classification**

| Category  | Ownership  | Status  | Present Use                                     |
|---|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> district               | <input type="checkbox"/> public                      | <input type="checkbox"/> occupied                   | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied      | <input type="checkbox"/> commercial             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure              | <input type="checkbox"/> both                        | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress           | <input type="checkbox"/> educational            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site                   | <b>Public Acquisition</b>                            | <b>Accessible</b>                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object                 | <input type="checkbox"/> in process                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted | <input type="checkbox"/> government             |
|   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted          | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial             |
|   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable   | <input type="checkbox"/> no                         | <input type="checkbox"/> military               |
|   |  |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: none |

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Robert Lewis Stein

street & number 419 East Main Street telephone no.:

city, town Clarksburg state and zip code WV 26301-3117

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Somerset County Clerk of Court liber 357

street & number Somerset County Courthouse folio 206

city, town Princess Anne state MD 21853

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title  
date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

pository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

Survey No. S-446

### Condition

☐ excellent  
☐ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☒ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved

date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Currently known as the Robert Stein house, named for the present owner, and historically identified as the Joseph Mullen Waters house, this two-and-a-half story frame dwelling stands at the west end of Waters Lane in the community of Upper Hill, Somerset County, Maryland. The two-and-a-half story, three-bay center hall dwelling faces south with the gable roof oriented on an east/west axis.

Dating to the late nineteenth century, c. 1900-1910, this two-story cross-gabled house has reached an advanced state of disrepair. Supported by a brick pier foundation, the house is sheathed with a layer of plain weatherboard siding, and the principal corners are trimmed with wide corner boards. The steeply pitched wood shingle roof has partially collapsed. Attached to the back of the main house is a two-story, two-bay kitchen wing.

The south (main) facade is a symmetrical elevation with a center entrance and flanking windows. The front door is marked by long louvered shutters, while each window opening is filled with a deteriorated two-over-two sash. The second floor is lighted by three evenly spaced window openings with the sash missing. Piercing the cross gable is an arched two-pane window opening. Protruding through the gable roof is a pair of interior, corbelled cap brick stove chimneys.

The east and west gable ends are alike with a single window opening on each floor, and an arched two-pane window lights the attic. The eaves to the roof are extended and the plain rafter ends are exposed.

The two-story, two-bay kitchen wing is marked by a side door and window on the east side that are sheltered by a shed roof porch supported by chamfered posts. A narrow single flue brick chimney stack protrudes through the gable end.

The interior was not seen.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. S-446

| Period                                    | Areas of Significance—Check and justify below    |   |   |  |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric      | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric  | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning     | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499        | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic     | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation           | <input type="checkbox"/> law                    | <input type="checkbox"/> science                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599        | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> economics              | <input type="checkbox"/> literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> education              | <input type="checkbox"/> military               | <input type="checkbox"/> social/<br>humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799        | <input type="checkbox"/> art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> music                  | <input type="checkbox"/> theater                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899        | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy             | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government    | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)         |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> invention              |   |  |

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

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Survey No. S-446

## PS-2746

S-446  
JOSEPH MULLEN WATERS HOUSE  
Upper Hill, Somerset County, Maryland  
Chain of title

357/206                      Marshall D. Waters, Represesntative of  
the Estate of Annie E. Waters

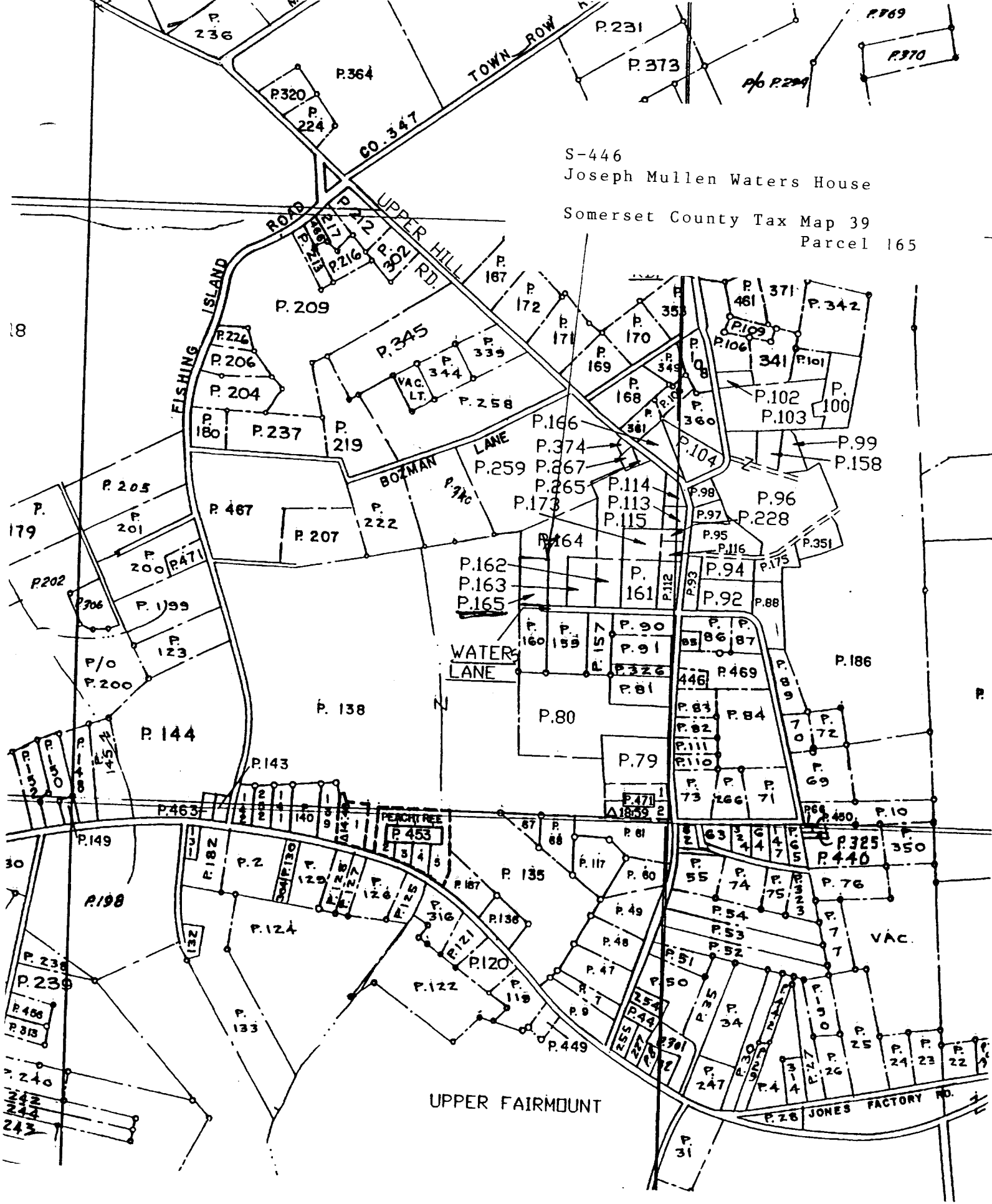
to

2/14/1986                  Robert    Lewis Stein  
\$1500              Lots 4 & 5 on plat prepared by  
Albert Sudler    2/30/1903  
Chancery Record   12/681

SFD 48/142                  Robert H. Jones, Jr.

to

11/5/1907                  Joseph Mullen Waters  
(Last will and testament   42/291)  
to wife, Lois Waters  
  
with remainder to Annie E. Waters  
and then to brother Marshall D. Waters  
and sister Margaret C. Waters



S-446  
Joseph Mullen Waters House

Somersex County Tax Map 39  
Parcel 165

18

30

UPPER FAIRMOUNT

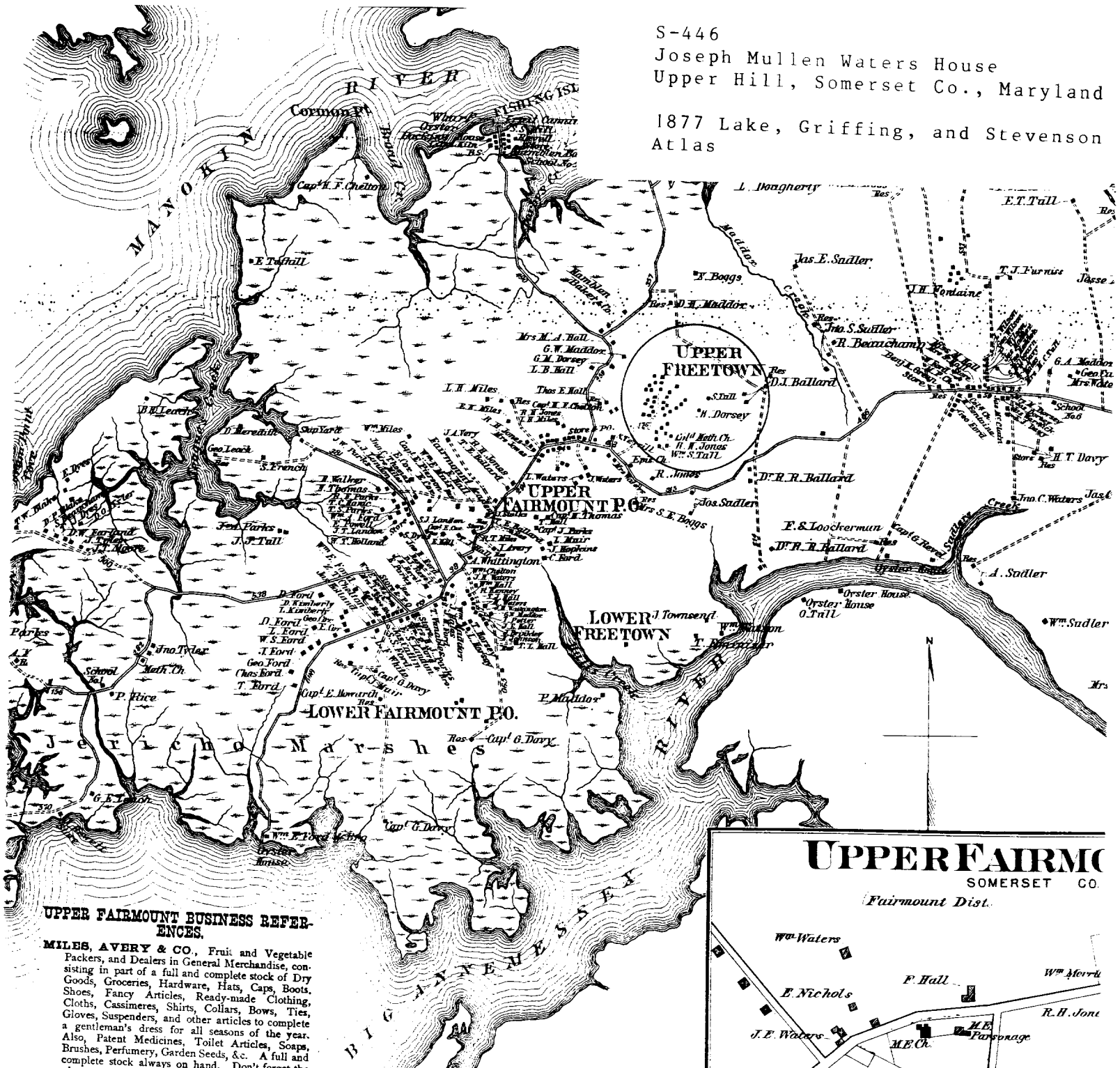
JONES FACTORY RD.



S-446

Joseph Mullen Waters House  
Upper Hill, Somerset Co., Maryland

1877 Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson  
Atlas



#### UPPER FAIRMOUNT BUSINESS REFERENCES.

**MILES, AVERY & CO.**, Fruit and Vegetable Packers, and Dealers in General Merchandise, consisting in part of a full and complete stock of Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, Fancy Articles, Ready-made Clothing, Cloths, Cassimeres, Shirts, Collars, Bows, Ties, Gloves, Suspenders, and other articles to complete a gentleman's dress for all seasons of the year. Also, Patent Medicines, Toilet Articles, Soaps, Brushes, Perfumery, Garden Seeds, &c. A full and complete stock always on hand. Don't forget the place, and give them a call.

**W. B. FORD & BRO.**, Oyster Packers and Dealers in Dry Goods, Groceries, Notions, Boots, Shoes, Hats, Caps, Hardware, and General Merchandise. Lower Fairmount.

**Dr. B. S. MILES**, Physician and Surgeon.

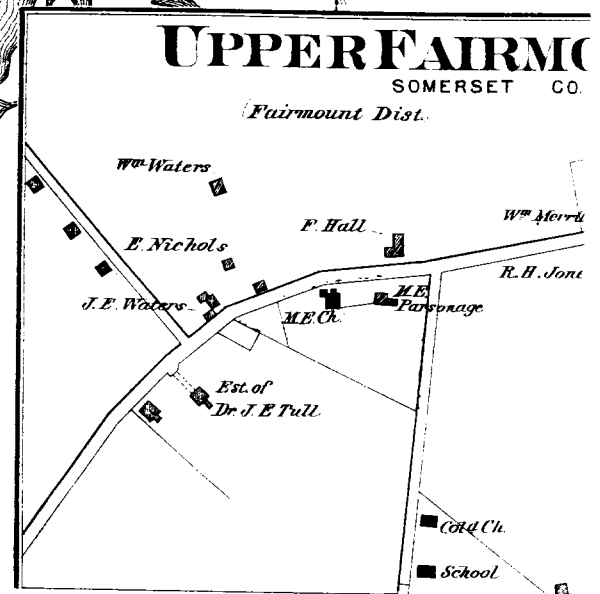
**B. K. GREEN**, Dealer in General Merchandise, such as Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, Queensware, Hats, Boots, Shoes, Notions, and all goods suitable for a first-class country store. Westover.

**W. B. LONG**, Dealer in Hardware, Tinware, Groceries, Notions, &c. Store near Westover, Md.

**JOSEPH GILPIN** offers a fine farm of 410 acres for sale. Westover.

## FAIRMOUNT

Dist. No. 6  
SOMERSET CO.



MARION QUADRAI  
MARYLAND—SOMERS:  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES ORTHOPHOTOI

5860 III NE  
(MONIE)

429

430

47'30"

431

1 150 000 FEET

432

433

S-446

Joseph Mullen Waters House

Marion, Maryland Quadrangle  
1972





S-446

Joseph M. Waters House

Upper Hill, Somerset County, Md.

EAST ELEVATION

6/95, Paul Touart, Pittsburgh, Pa.

N.E. / Md. Historical Trust

1/1